

MUSIC AND DRAMA

At the Princess Theatre, Toronto, next week, will be offered a musical play, "A Knight For a Day," a B. C. Whitney attraction which has greatly pleased Chicago, New York and Boston. The libretto is the work of Mr. Robert B. Smith and the score is by Mr. Raymond Hubbell of "Fantana" fame. The production pretends to be nothing more than a wholesome bit of holiday gaiety, and as such will clear the atmosphere of last week's "Devil." The success which has attended the "waiter-knight" in Massachusetts will probably follow him to Ontario.

* * *

HANDEL'S "Messiah" was presented by the Winnipeg Oratorio Society in Grace Church of that city on December 16th, and it was much to the glory of local talent that two Winnipeg soloists, Mesdames Verner and Counsell, were equal to the soprano and contralto solo work. Messrs. Towne and Ross, from across the border are well known to Canadian audiences, especially to such as rejoice in oratorio. The press of Winnipeg congratulates Mr. Fred Warrington, conductor, on his successful training of a chorus of one hundred and fifty members.

* * *

ONE is reminded that Winnipeg is probably the most cosmopolitan city in the Dominion by the announcement that on Thursday evening of last week, at the Walker Theatre, there was a production, "The Sacrifice of Isaac" by the Chicago Yiddish Company for the benefit of Hebrews alone. It is true that Yiddish plays are enjoyed in Toronto by those in the Hebrew quarters. But it is to be doubted whether a play in Yiddish at the Princess or Royal Alexandra Theatre would result in a packed house. The Hebrew blood has always made for dramatic power and it is the strong mixture of this element in the United States which leads Mr. Kipling to prophesy that a great dramatic genius will come out of "America." In that case, Winnipeg may stand as good a chance as Chicago.

* * *

IN a crooning Southern song, "Shut Your Eyes, Ma Honey," words and music by Robert Stuart Pigott, we have a delightful bit of genre melody. The author-composer has avoided the extravagances of the "coon" style of musical manufacture, but has written words and music, fit to rank with the "Bandanna Bal-lads," which, as everyone familiar with the Land of the Magnolia knows, is a product of "the sure-enough South." Whaley, Royce and Company are the Toronto publishers.

From Houghton and Company, London, England, comes the proof copy of Noel Johnson's latest song, "A Litany," the words of which are Mr. Archibald Sullivan's poem. The peculiarly delicate style of this young Canadian poet has been caught by the composer and matched in a setting of unusual pathos and simplicity.

The Delmar Music Company of Montreal publishes another edition of "O Canada" the Lavallee composition, for which His Honour, Judge Weir, of Montreal has supplied an English rendering of Judge Routhier's poem. This is the third or fourth English version of the original French and His Honour has given a liberal expression of the Routhier sentiment rather than a translation. The

melody has been harmonised by G. A. Grant-Schaefer, and the song, described as a national song for Canadians, is attractively published by this Montreal firm.

Whatever version is used for this melody, there can be no question that the Lavallee melody has been adopted throughout Canada as a national strain worthy of the Dominion. In stateliness, it resembles the Russian national hymn, but has a hopeful strain with the Slav melody does not possess. The first Torontonians to recognise its greatness was Dr. T. B. Richardson, to whose early enthusiasm regarding the merits of this composition Ontarians owe much.

* * *

THAT progressive association, the Arion Club of Victoria, British Columbia, gave the first concert of its seventeenth season on Tuesday, December eighth, in Victoria Theatre, with "O Canada," the composition to which reference has just been made, as the opening number on the programme. Protheroe's "Barcarolle," and "Nocturne," "The Legend of the Bended Bow," by W. W. Gilchrist, "Cavalier Song" by Granville Bantock, and G. W. Chadwick's "Song of the Viking" were the most prominent choral numbers. The club was assisted by Mrs. Harry Pooley, Mrs. Hermann Robertson and Miss Miles. Mr. E. Howard Russell is the conductor of this highly successful organisation, and has already established a reputation as one of the leading musicians in the West. Mr. Damrosch heard the club last year and expressed his approval of the style in which their work is carried on.

* * *

THERE promises to be no falling off in the interest taken in the next competition for the Earl Grey Amateur Musical and Dramatic Trophy, to be held in Montreal in April. The honorary secretary, Mr. F. C. T. O'Hara, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, has had an unusually large number of enquiries for copies of the regulations covering the contests. For the past two years the competition has been held in the Russell Theatre, Ottawa, and the week's productions have been witnessed by crowded houses. The executive committee decided to hold the next trials in Montreal, with the idea that the following year they should take place in Toronto. There is every reason to believe that the contests in Montreal will be an even greater success than those already held. Earl Grey and suite will be in attendance every evening, and it is expected that there will be large and fashionable audiences. The trophies are now held by the Ottawa Conservatory Orchestra and the Ottawa Theatrical Dramatic Club.

The regulations provide that all the musical entries shall include in their programme a prescribed piece of music. The selection of these numbers has now been made by the committee as follows:

For Mixed Chorus—1. "Wings of a Dove," by Howard Brockway, Op. 24 (Schirmer); 2. Elgar's "Challenge of Thor" (Novello).

For Men's Chorus—"In Winter," Kremser (Schirmer).

For Women's Chorus—"The Sleeping Beauty," by Felix Woyrach (Novello).

For Full Orchestra—Mendelssohn's "Hebrides Overture."

For String Orchestra—Massenet's "Dream of the Virgin."



CHILDREN

like to wear Turnbull's Vests—they are so nice and warm, soft and comfortable.

Knitted by a special process they keep their shape.

Turnbull's Vests

and the famous Cee-Tee underclothing are manufactured at Galt by the

C. TURNBULL CO. OF GALT, LIMITED

ASK YOUR DEALER TO SHOW YOU TURNBULL'S GOODS

1317

SECURED INVESTMENTS

The Peoples Building & Loan ASSOCIATION

428 Richmond Street, London, Ont.

loans all its funds on first mortgages on real estate. If you made a Deposit, took out a Debenture, or made an Investment in the Permanent Dividend Paying Stock with us, this would be your security:

4% Paid on Deposits, Withdrawable by Check.

4½% Coupons on all Debentures.

6% Dividends on Permanent Stock.

Call or write for a copy of the 15th Annual Report. All business strictly private.

A. A. CAMPBELL, Managing Director

ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE TORONTO

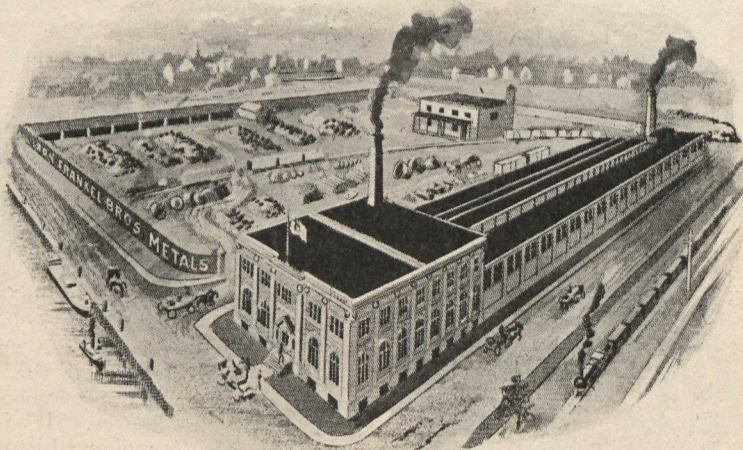
A Canadian Residential and Day School for Boys. Upper and lower School. Boys prepared for the Universities and the Royal Military College.

Large Staff Thorough Instruction Careful Oversight
Extensive Playfields, Gymnasium, etc.

Re-opens after Christmas vacation on Jan. 12th, 1909
Calendar sent on application

Rev. D. Bruce Macdonald, M.A., L.L.D., Principal

1322



DON RIVER COR EASTERN AVE

FRANKEL BROTHERS TORONTO — MONTREAL METALS

OUR NEW PREMISES ARE THE LARGEST IN CANADA
— WE COVER AN AREA OF 250,000 SQUARE FEET —